1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Landscape and Visual Audit & Monitoring are conducted to fulfill the requirements of the EIA Report during the Construction and Operational Phases of the project, and are based on the procedures and requirements as set out in the Agreement No. CE 28/2004 (GE) Landslide Preventive Works at Po Shan, Mid-Levels – Design and Construction (Natural Terrain Risk Mitigation Works) - Environmental Monitoring and Audit Manual.

As stated in section 3.5 and 3.6 of the EM&A Manual, all landscape and visual mitigation measures undertaken by the Contractor during the construction phase and the first 12 months of the operational phase shall be audited on a bi-weekly and monthly basis respectively to ensure compliance with the intended aims of the mitigation measures.

2.0 SCOPE OF AUDIT and MONITORING

The broad scope of landscape and visual monitoring and audit on mitigation measures is as detailed below:

2.1 Construction Phase

Indentify any potential conflicts between the proposed landscape measures and any other project works or operation requirements, and recorded for the contractor to resolve in early stage, without compromising the intention of the mitigation measures. Also, the followings shall be monitored:

- designation of 'no-intrusion zones', and to record any trespass by the contractor, including damage to existing vegetation;
- allowance for adjustment of soil nails on site for the avoidance of tree trunks and tree roots;
- dust and erosion control for exposed soil;
- tree planting operations, checking method statement against specification requirements;
- all retained trees within the working boundary shall be regularly checked and reported to the engineer, including damage to the tree canopy edge.

Considerations shall also be made to address the appearance and view by public through:

- control over the appearance of construction workers, hoarding, construction plants / machines
- careful selection of security floodlights to avoid light pollution

2.2 **Operation Phase**

Ensure the compensatory planting and horticultural maintenance operations are properly carried out during the 12 months establishment period, including:

- Inspection for fungal / viral attacks and pest infestations
- Litter collection
- Watering
- Weeding removal
- Replacement of defective planting material
- Grass cutting / groundcover trimming and removal of arisings
- Fertilizing application as required in specification
- Aeration / mulching application

3.0 INSPECTIONS

3.1 Summary of Inspection – 5th May 2009

3.1.1 Matters Arising from Previous Inspections

- It was still observed that the termite infected dead tree T534 along the footpath stair was still not removed. The Contractor was reminded to urgently remove the infected dead tree for consideration of safety of the workers and the public in future.
- It was still observed that no further rectification of tree ID numbers was carried out since the last couple of inspections. The Contractor was reminded to rectify the missing tree ID numbers on the remaining existing trees as soon as possible.
- It was noted that compensatory planting proposal for the replacement of dead tree T611 was outstanding. The Contractor was recommended to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting as soon as possible.
- It was noted that the Contractor's clarification of the status of existing trees T516, T517, T666, and T698 located immediately outside of the works boundary was outstanding. The Contractor was reminded to provide necessary information as soon as possible.

3.1.2 <u>Protection of Existing Trees</u>

• It was observed that electrical cables were strung overhead and hanged from tree branches. The Contractor was requested to remove the electrical cables away from the trees as soon as possible.

3.1.3 <u>Recommendations</u>

- The Contractor was recommended to remove the dead tree T534 from site for safety considerations, especially the tree was found infected by termite. The Contractor was also reminded to record and report all dead trees as found on site to the Engineer for record.
- The Contractor was again reminded to rectify all remaining ineligible tree ID numbers for all existing trees.
- The Contractor was again reminded d to clarify the status of missing trees as soon as possible.
- The Contractor was again reminded to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting for dead tree.
- The Contractor was recommended to remove the electrical cables away from existing trees and not to use trees as support in future.

3.2 Summary of Inspection – 19th May 2009

3.2.1 Matters Arising from Previous Inspections

- The Contractor had cleared the overhead electrical cables from existing trees.
- Removal of the termite infected dead tree T534 along the footpath stair was still outstanding. The Contractor was reminded to urgently remove the infected dead tree as soon as possible.
- It was still observed that no further rectification of tree ID numbers was carried out since the last few inspections. The Contractor was reminded to rectify the missing tree ID numbers on the remaining existing trees as soon as possible.
- It was noted that compensatory planting proposal for the replacement of dead tree T611 was outstanding. The Contractor was recommended to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting as soon as possible.
- It was noted that the Contractor's clarification of the status of existing trees T516, T517, T666, and T698 located immediately outside of the works boundary was outstanding. The Contractor was reminded to provide necessary information as soon as possible.

3.2.2 Protection of Existing Trees

• It was observed that the Contractor had tied safety ropes around the base of several existing trees. The Contractor was reminded that the practice was not acceptable and was requested to remove the ropes as soon as possible.

3.2.3 <u>Recommendations</u>

- The Contractor was again reminded to remove the dead tree T534 from site for safety considerations as soon as possible, especially the tree was found infected by termite. The Contractor was also reminded to record and report all dead trees as found on site to the Engineer for record.
- The Contractor was reminded to rectify all remaining ineligible / missing tree ID numbers for all existing trees.
- The Contractor was again reminded to clarify the status of missing trees as soon as possible.
- The Contractor was again reminded to seek Engineer's agreement on the replacement planting for dead trees.
- The Contractor was recommended to remove the safety ropes away from the base of the existing trees and not to use trees as support in future.

4.0 AUDIT SCHEULE

4.1 Audit Schedule for June 2009

The next audits are scheduled to be conduct on 2nd, 16th and 30th June 2009.